Journal of Sohag Agriscience (JSAS) 2022, 7(2):119-126



ISSN 2357-0725 https://jsasj.journals.ekb.eg JSAS 2022; 7(2): 119-126

Received: 06-09-2022 Accepted: 09-10-2022

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Corresponding author: Huda, H. I. Assaker huda11assaker@gmail.com Quantitative survey of scale insects and their associated natural enemies infesting common fruit crops trees in Sohag governorate

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Abstract

Fruit crops trees in sohag Governorate are infested with many scale insects and mealybugs, which affect their production qualitatively and quantitatively. The most important of these fruit crops are the following: Citrus trees: there were 17 insect species belonging to 13 families of 6 orders. 12 species was recorded as pests the most abundant one was Aonidiella aurantii, 4 species recorded as predator and one parasitoid. The five species that were collected from arthropods differentiated as 3 species as pests and two species as predators. Aphytis sp and Cheletogenus ornatus were the most abundant associated parasitoid and predator. Mango trees: - there were 11 insect species belonging to 6 families of 3 orders these orders represented by 9, 1 and 1 species, respectively were considered as 9 pests attack mango trees and two associated natural enemies, parasitoid and predator. The most abundant pests infest mango trees at Sohag Governorate the diaspided hard scale insect A. tubercularis and the coccid soft scale insect M. mangiferae. Guava trees: there were 12 insect species belonging to 6 families of 3 orders. These orders represented by 9, 1 & 2 species, respectively were considered as 9 pests attack guava trees and three associated natural enemies, parasitoid and 2 predators. The coccidae have long been considered major and sever pests of guava trees where the Ceroplastis cirripediformis was the most abundant pest cause high injury followed by the two diaspididae pests Hemiberlisia latania. Date palm trees :- there were 9 species belonging to 6 families of 3 orders these orders represented by 6, 2 & 1 species, respectively were considered as 6 pests attack date palm trees and three associated natural enemies, 2 parasitoid and 1 predator. The most important pests of date palm. Fiorinia phoenicis followed by Parlatoria blanchardii. Fig trees:- there were 12 species belonging to 9 families of 3 orders. These orders represented by 9, 2 & 1 species, respectively.

INTRODUCTION

Scale insects found in different parts of the world fall within 23 Families while only 12 out of that number are found in Egypt. The most important of these are 3 families being armored insects (Diaspididae), mealybugs scale (Margarodidae and Pseudococcidae) and soft scale (Coccidae) and these are dangerous species that attack different important economic crops in Egypt. Most of the species belongs of these families are polyphagous, eurymerous, and attack various parts of the host plant, leaves, stem, bark, crown, fruits and roots. The main injury caused due to their ingestion of plant sap, reduction of plant vigor, drop leaves or spottily vellowing, deformation of shoot and twig, blister like galls, fruit drops and effect on the normal physiological activities of the trees with effect on nitrogen, protein. phosphorus. potassium. calcium. magnesium, chlorophyll "a" and "b". (Hassan et al, 2012). The economic importance of date palm tree Phoenix, dactylifera L. exceeds its nutrition value as the most valuable fruit. Preserve Egypt's international status as a large producer of dates in the world, requires tackling pests that attack palm trees. Diseases and pathogen pests are causing great economic loss to the growers, reducing about 52 % of the total yield (Sanad et al, 2017).

Citrus come second only to grapes in planting production of fruit trees worldwide (Spiegel-Roy and Goldschmidt, 1996), The California red scale is one of most important pest infested citrus trees in different parts of the world (Karaca, 1998; claps et. al., 2001 and Abd-Rabou, 2009). Mango was considered the third major fruit crop after citrus and grapes. According to the survey of ministry of agriculture of Egypt and infested with 14 species belonging to four families: Diaspididae, Coccidae, Pseudococcidae and Margarodidae, among which were the two species Aulacaspis tubercularis and Kilifia acumulata (Kwaiz, 1999 and Attia, 2010). Guava was of the most important and popular fruits in Egypt, The surveyed scale insects in Qaliobiya were belonging to the same four families (Coccidae, Diaspididae, Pseudococcidae and Margarodidae) where, the highest population pests Pulvinaria psidii (Maskell), Ceroplastis were cirripediformis (Comstock) (first recorded), Aspidiotus nerii (Bouche) and Lepidosaiphes ulmi

L. Guava trees were infested by other scale insects but with low level as mealybug (I. seychellarum & M. Hibiscus) and some of soft scale insects as, Coccus hesperidum, Saissetia coffeae, Saissetia oleae. (Attia, 2010). Fig trees infested with four species of scale insect, these were: Asterolecanium pustulans (Fam. Asterolecanidae). Ckll. Hemiberlisia latania sign., Paratoria olea Colv (Fam. Diaspididae) Ceroplastes rusci L. (Fam. Coccidae). The first species was the most common on fig trees. Eraki (1991). Date palm trees infested with 11 insect pests belonging-to 9 familias from the orders Isoptera, Homoptera, Lepidoptera and The predominant insets were two Coleoptera. scale insects Parlatoria blanchardii ; the red date scale **Phoenicoccus** marlatti (Cockerel); Dysmicoccus brevipes (Cockerel) (El-Sherif et al. 1998).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Survey of insects and mealybugs infesting some fruit crop trees and their associated enemies *Areas of study*

The present study was carried out in Shandawil Horticulture Research Station, Sohag area, Sohag Governorate during two successive consecutive seasons (2019-2020). Seven areas planted with different fruit crop seven trees (orange, lemmone, mandarine, mango, guava, fig and date palm) were selected. These different fruit crop trees were infested with scale insects and mealybugs. The selected orchards do not receive any chemical control during both studied seasons and two years prior to the experiment. All trees received same horticultural practices during studied period.

Sampling methods

Ten trees were selected from each fruit crop under experiment, which were approximately similar in age, size, height and vegetation. Samples were picked up monthly throughout the study. Samples size was100 leaves or leaflets for each selected fruit crop trees, where 10 leaves were taken from each tree, two leaves for each of cardinal directions (east, west, north& south) and tree core.

Samples were kept in polyethylene bags with minute holes and transferred directly to the laboratory for examination. Samples were examined visually or by the aid of stereoscopic binocular, then insects and there different associated natural enemies were identified, counted and recorded to determine the level of infestation (low, moderate or high), where we referred to these level by this signs (+, ++ & +++), respectively.

- Highly abundant (+++) when insect population found (over 20 insects / sample).

- Moderate abundant (++) when insect population found (from 10 to 20 insects / sample).

- Low abundant (+) when insect population found (less <u>than</u> 10 insects / sample). The surveyed insects were identified by the specialists in the Scale insect and taxonomic Departments, Plant Protection Research.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

I-Survey studies

1-Survey of scale insects and mealybug infest citrus trees and their associated natural enemies in sohag Governorate.

The present study was carried out to survey the scale insects and mealybugs species that infest citrus trees at Sohag Governorate during 2019/2020 seasons.

The overall results are summarized in Table (1) to investigate the scale insects and mealybug species recorded on citrus trees according to their orders, families and insect species, also the associated parasitoids and predators were investigated. The results showed that, there were 17 insect species belonging to 17 genera under 13 family of 6 orders (Hemiptera, Hymenoptera, Lepidoptera, Coleoptera, Diptra and Parasitiformes). 12 species was recorded as pests, 4 species recorded as predator and one parasitoid. The five species that were collected from arthropods differentiated as 3 species as pests and two species as predators

Through this study, we can concluded that the diaspididae or armored scale insects in general are one of the most economically most important and destructive groups due to their great reproductive capacity, survival ability and the difficulty in chemical control *Aonidiella aurantii* was the most abundant pest infest citrus trees, at sohag, also *Aphytis* sp and *Cheletogenus ornatus* were the most abundant associated parasitoid and predator.

Seven species of scale insects infesting citrus trees included *A. aurantii* (Maskell) and two associated parasitoid *Aphytis lingnanensis* Compere and *Habrolepis aspidioti* Compere and Annecke in Beni- Suef. (Moustafa, 2012).

14 insect species belonging to 13 genera under 7 families of 4 orders. In addition one species of mites was recorded. <u>while, 6 species considered as a pests, 4 predators and 5 species as parasitoids at Qena Governorate (Haris, 2015).</u>

Table (1): A partial taxonomic list of destructive and beneficial species recorded by direct count from
citrus during two successive seasons 2019/2020 in Sohag Governorate.

	classification position				
Scientific name and	Order	Family	status	Occurred period	Abundance
Aonidiella aurantii	Hemiptera	Didspididae	Pest	All the year	+++
Lepiudosaphis bekii	Hemiptera	Didspididae	Pest	All the year	++
Milviscutulus mangiferae	Hemiptera	Cocciddae	Pest	All the year	++
Coccus hesberidum	Hemiptera	Didspididae	Pest	MarAug.	+
Planococus citri	Hemiptera	Pesudococcidae	Pest	May-Nov.	++
Maconellicoccus hirsutus	Hemiptera	Pesudococcidae	Pest	AugDec.	++
Feresia vergata	Hemiptera	Pesudococcidae	Pest	May-Nov.	+
Icerya purchasi	Hemiptera	Monophelipidae	Pest	All the year	+++
Aleurocanthus woglumi	Hemiptera	Aleurodidae	Pest	AprAug.	+
Phyllocnistis citrella	Lepidoptera	Gracillariidae	Pest	All the year	++
Aegyptobia spp.	Parasitiformes	Tenuipalpidae	Pest	All the year	+
Brevipalpus obovatus	Parasitiformes	Tenuipalpidae	Pest	All the year	+
Tetranychus urticae	Parasitiformes	Tetranychidae	Pest	All the year	+
Agestemus exertus	Parasitiformes	Stigmaidae	predator	AprDec.	
Cheletogenus ornatus	Parasitiformes	Cheyletidae	predator	All the year	+++
Aphytis spp.	Hymenoptera	Aphilinidae	Parasitoid	All the year	+++
Dicrodiplosis manihoti	Diptera	Cecidomylinae	predator	May-Dec.	++
Scymnus syriacus	Coleoptera	Coccinellidae	predator	AprJun	+
Rodolia cardinalis	Coleoptera	Coccinellidae	predator	AprJun	++

Scientific name and	classification position		Status	Occurred namiad	Abundance
	Order	Family	Status	Occurred period	Abundance
Aulacaspis tubercularis	Hemiptera	Didspididae	Pest	All the year	+++
Lepidosaphes palidulla	Hemiptera	Didspididae	Pest	All the year	++
Aonidiela aurantii	Hemiptera	Didspididae	Pest	All the year	++
Hemiberlesia lataniae	Hemiptera	Didspididae	Pest	All the year	+
Milviscutulus mangiferae	Hemiptera	Cocciddae	Pest	All the year	+++
Saissetia coffeae	Hemiptera	Cocciddae	Pest	All the year	+
Ceroplastis floridensis	Hemiptera	Cocciddae	Pest	From Mar. to Dec.	+
Planococus citri	Hemiptera	Pesudococcidae	Pest	From May. to Dec	+
Icerya purchasi	Hemiptera	Monophlebidae	Pest	From Mar. to Oct.	++
Aphytis spp.	Hymenoptera	Aphilinidae	Parasitoid	All the year	
Rodolia cardinalis	Coleoptera	Coccinellidae	Predator	From Apr. to JUN.	++

Table (2): A partial taxonomic list of destructive and beneficial species recorded by direct count from mango during two successive seasons 2019/2020 in Sohag Governorate.

2-Survey of scale insects and mealybug infest mango trees and their associated natural enemies in sohag Governorate

The present study carried out to survey the scale insects and mealybug attacking mango trees at Sohag Governorate during 2019/2020 seasons.

Data present in table (2) revealed that there were 11 insect species belonging to 11 genera under 6 families of 3 orders (Hemiptera, Hymenoptera and Coleoptera). These orders represented by 9, 1 and 1 species, respectively were considered as 9 pests attack mango trees and two associated natural enemies, parasitoid and predator. This study revealed that, the diaspided hard scale insect A. tubercularis and the coccid soft scale insect M. mangiferae were the most abundant pests infest mango trees at Sohag Governorate. Attia (2010) investigated the occurrence and ecology of scale insects in four mango plantations in AlQaliobiya governorate, Egypt. They recorded 14 species belonging to four families: Diaspididae, Coccidae, Pseudococcidae and Margarodidae, among which were the two species Aulacaspis tubercularis and Kilifia acumulata identified in the present work. They also found that the population densities of the 14 species were largely depending on temperature of about 25 °C and relative humidity of 55%. Furthermore, a survey of scale insects and mealybugs on mango trees at Giza Governorate, during two successive years 2014 and 2015 showed that mango trees were infested by 12 species of scale insects and mealybugs belonging Diaspididae, to four families: Coccidae. Monophlebidae and Pseudococcidae. The white mealybug, Icerva seychellarum (Westwod) was the

most dangerous and abundant of the collected species followed by Insulaspis pallidula (Green) then *Kilifia acuminata* (Signoret) and *Hemiberlesia lataniae* (Signoret). (El-Razzik 2017). The white hard scale insect *Aulacaspis tubercularis* Newstead (Diaspididae) and a green soft scale insect *Kilifia acuminata* Signoret (Coccidae) were the most dangerous pests infest mango trees as well as four saprotrophic fungi as secondary infection at Ismaelia (Hashem, 2021)

3-Survey of scale insects and mealybug infest guava trees and their associated natural enemies in sohag Governorate.

The present study carried out to survey the scale insects and mealybug infest guava trees, also natural enemies were recorded in Sohag Governorate during 2019/2020 seasons.

The summarized data which tabulated in table (3) showed number of scale insects and mealybug infest guava trees, where 11 insect species belonging to 11 genera under 6 families of 3 orders (Hemiptera, Hymenoptera and Coleoptera). These orders represented by 9, 1 & 2 species, respectively were considered as 9 pests attack guava trees and three associated natural enemies, parasitoid and 2 predators. The coccidae have long been considered major and sever pests of guava trees where the *C. cirripediformis* was the most abundant pest cause high injury followed by the two diaspidid pests (*H. latania* and *A. aurantii*), *I. sychellarum* and the white fly *A. psidii*

Nine scale insect species (Hemiptera: Coccoidea) belongs to four families were collected during updated survey of scale insects and mealybug infest guava treesat Qaliobiya Governorate for two successive years. the most serious soft scale insect was *Pulvinaria psidii* Maskell (Hemiptera: Coccidae) Three predators, *Rodalia cardinalis* Mulsant, *Chilocorus bipustulatus* L. (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) and *Amblyserius swiriskii* (Athias-Henriot) (Acari: Phytoseiidae) were collected, (Bakr, *et.al.* 2012).

Table (3): A partial taxonomic list of destructive and beneficial species recorded by direct count from guava during two successive seasons 2019/2020 in Sohag Governorate.

Scientific name and	classification position		status	Occurred namiad	Abundance
	Order	Family	status	Occurred period	Abundance
Hemiberlesia lataniae	Hemiptera	Didspididae	pest	All the year	++
Aonidiela aurantii	Hemiptera	Didspididae	pest	All the year	++
Lepidosaphes ulmi	Hemiptera	Didspididae	pest	All the year	+
Ceroplastes cirripediformis	Hemiptera	Cocciddae	pest	From Mar. to Dec.	+++
Pulvinaria psidii	Hemiptera	Cocciddae	pest	All the year	+
Saissetia coffeae	Hemiptera	Cocciddae	pest	All the year	+
Icerya sychellarum	Hemiptera	Monophlebidae	Pest	From Mar. to Oct.	++
Feresia vergata	Hemiptera	Pesudococcidae	pest	From May. to Dec	++
Aleuroclava psidii	Hemiptera	Aleyrodidae	pest	All the year	++
Encarsia Sophia	Hymenoptera	Aphilinidae	Parasitoid	All the year	++
Aphytis spp.	Hymenoptera	Aphilinidae	Parasitoid	All the year	+++
Dicrodiplosis manihoti	Diptera	Cecidomylinae	predator	May-Dec.	+
Rodolia cardinalis	Coleoptera	Coccinellidae	predator	From Apr. to JUN.	++

This work was carried out on fruiting guava trees on local variety mammouralduring two successive seasons (2013/2014 and 2014/2015). Survey of insects pests infested guava trees was carried out in private orchards at Zagazig, Abou-Hammad and Faqus centeries, Sharkia Governorate. The most surveyed insect belonging to three order i.e., Hemiptera, Diptera and coleoptera and (18) species were recorded: Coccus hesperidum L., Pulvinaria psidii Maskell, Ceroplastes floridensis comst., Ceroplastes rusci L., Aspidiotus nerii Bouche, Hemiberlesia lataniae signoret; Aonidiella aurantii Maskell; Icerva seychellarum Mask; Icerva aegypticae Dgl.; Empoasca decipiens Paoli, Empoascua decedens Paoli ; Aphis gossypii; Glover ; Bemisia tabaci Gennadius and ; Nezera virduala L. Diptera species were Ceratitis capitata wiedemann and Bactrocera zonata Saunders. Coleoptera species were Carophilus hemiptrus L. and Carpophilus dimidiatus L. Such surveyed orders and species were arranged descendingly, concerning its density (Mohsen, 2018).

4-Survey of scale insects and mealybug infest date palm trees and their associated natural enemies in sohag Governorate

The survey of scale insects and mealybug infest date palm trees in Sohag Governorate provided extensive list of principal insect pests and the associated natural enemies.

Data present in table (4) clearly investigated that the list of insects consists of 9 species belonging to 8 genera under 6 families of 3 orders (Hemiptera, Hymenoptera and Coleoptera). These orders represented by 6, 2 & 1 species, respectively were considered as 6 pests attack date palm trees and three associated natural enemies, 2 parasitoids and 1 predator. The armored insects were the most important pests of date palm. F. phoenicis was the most important pest followed by P. blanchardii. In a field survey conducted in Gujarat, India, during 1990-91, Parlatoria blanchardii, Hemiberlesia lataniae and Phoenicococcus marlatti were identified as pests of dates. Their natural enemies included the predators Cybocephalus sp., Menochilus sexmaculatus [Cheilomenes sexmaculata], Pharoscymnus horni, P. flexibilis and Chilocorus nigritus [C. nigrita], and the parasitoid Archenomus sp. (Murlidharan, 1993).

Scientific name and	classification position		status	Occurred mariad	Abundance
	Order	Family	status	Occurred period	Abundance
Fiorinia phoenicis	Hemiptera	Didspididae	Pest	All the year	+++
Parlatoria blanchardii	Hemiptera	Didspididae	Pest	All the year	++
Aonidiela aurantii	Hemiptera	Didspididae	Pest	All the year	+
Phoenicococcus marlatti	Hemiptera	Phoenicoccidae	Pest	All the year	++
Feresia vergata	Hemiptera	Pesudococcidae	Pest	From May. to Dec	+
Icerya aegyptiaca	Hemiptera	Monophlebidae	Pest	From Mar. to Oct.	+
Aphytis spp	Hymenoptera	Aphilinidae	Parasitoid	All the year	+++
Pteroptrix aegyptica	Hymenoptera	Aphilinidae	Parasitoid	All the year	+++
Rodolia cardinalis	Coleoptera	Coccinellidae	Predator	From Apr. to Jun.	+

Table (4): A partial taxonomic list of destructive and beneficial species recorded by direct count from date palm during two successive seasons 2019/2020 in Sohag Governorate.

Homopteran species (Platyplura arabica, 8 **Ommatissus** binotatus. **Pseudaspidoproctus** hyphaeniacus, Maconellicoccus hirsutus, Aonidiella orientalis, Fiorinia linderae, Parlatoria blanchardii and Phoenicococcus marlatii) were recorded during the survey of insect pests and mites associated with infested roots, stems, leaves, infloresecence and dates [Phoenix dactylifera] of date palm trees in the Al-Dakhliya region in Oman from January 1994 to December 1996. (Elwan, 2000).

5-Survey of scale insects and mealybug infest fig trees and their associated natural enemies in Sohag Governorate.

The survey of Hemiptern scale insects and their associated natural enemies gave us a list of more differentiated scale insects pests infest fig trees resulted in harm or death of the trees. The destructive scales and their associated insects were clearly demonstrated in table (5).the referred list consists of 12 species belonging to 12 genera under 9 families of 3 orders (Hemiptera, Hymenoptera and Coleoptera). These orders represented by 9, 2 and 1 species, respectively were considered as 9 pests attack fig trees and three associated natural enemies, 2 parasitoid and 1 predator. The survey arthropods pest infest fig trees six districts of the three major fig-production regions of the Western Cape over two production seasons on a monthly basis from September 2006 to April 2008 investigated that fig trees attacked by five different species of scale insects as following: The grapevine mealybug *Planococcus ficus* (Signoret) (Pseudococcidae), two species of soft scales (Coccidae), the soft brown scale, Coccus hesperidum L., the black soft scale Parasaissetia nigra (Nietner), formerly also known as Saissetia nigra (Nietner) the fig wax scale, Ceroplastes ficus (Newstead), also occasionally occurs on figs. The polyphagous red scale. Aonidiella aurantii (Maskell) (Diaspididae) which is a common pest on citrus was observed on fruit, (Wohlfarter, 2011).

Table (5): A partial taxonomic list of destructive and beneficial species recorded by direct count from fig during two 2019/2020 in Sohag Governorate.

Scientific name and	classification position		status	Occurred norted	Abundance
Scientific fiame and	Order	Family	status	Occurred period	Abundance
Asterolecanium pustulans	Hemiptera	Asterolecanidae		All the year	+
Hemiberlisia lataniae	Hemiptera	Didspididae	pest	All the year	+++
Aonidiela aurantii	Hemiptera	Didspididae	pest	All the year	+
Saissetia coffeae	Hemiptera	Coccidae	pest	All the year	++
Ceroplastis rusci	Hemiptera	Coccidae	pest	From Mar. to Dec.	++
Coccus hesperidum	Hemiptera	Coccidae	pest	All the year	+
Planococcus ficus	Hemiptera	Pesudococcidae	pest	From May. to Dec	+
Icerya aegyptiaca	Hemiptera	Monophlebidae	Pest	From Mar. to Oct.	++
Aleuroclava psidii	Hemiptera	Aleyrodidae	pest	All the year	++
Aphytis spp	Hymenoptera	Aphilinidae	Parasitoid	All the year	+++
Encarsia sophia	Hymenoptera	Aphilinidae	Parasitoid	All the year	+
Rodolia cardinalis	Coleoptera	Coccinellidae	predator	From Apr. to Jun.	++

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المسح الكمى للحشرات القشرية و البق الدقيقى و الأعداء الحيوية المصاحبة لها التى تصيب أشجار الفاكهة الشائعة فى محافظة سوهاج

تصاب اشجار محاصيل الفاكهة الاساسية فى محافظة سوهاج بالعديد من الحشرات القشرية والبق الدقيقى التى تؤثر على انتاجها كما وكيفا. ومن أهم هذه المحاصيل التالى:

محصول الموالح :- تصاب أشجار الموالح ب 15 نوع من الحشرات تابعة لـ 6 رتب و 13 عائلة منها 12 نوع من الحشرات سجلت كآفة و أهمهم الحشرة القشرية الحمراء و 4 أنواع سجلت كأعداء حيوية و أهمهم طفيل الأفيتس و نوع واحد من العناكب و سجل كمفترس

محصول المانجو: - تصاب أشجار المانجو ب 11 نوع تابعة لـ 3 رتب و6 عائلات حيث سجلت منها 9 أنوع من الحشرات كآفة و أهمهم حشرة المانجو القشرية البيضاء و حشرة المانجو الرخوة و سجلت نوعين كأعداء حيوية.

محصول الجوافة:- تصاب أشجار الجوافة ب 12 نوعمن الحشرات تابعة لـ 3 رتب و6 عائلات حيث سجلت منها 9 أنوع من الحشرات كافة و أهمهم حشرة الجوافة الشمعية و حشرة اللاتنيا القشرية و سجلت ثلاث أنواع من الأعداء الحيوية نوع واحد من الطفيليات نوعين من المفترسات.

محصول النخيل: - تصاب أشجار النخيل ب 9 أنوع من الحشرات تابعة لـ 3 رتب و6 عائلات حيث سجلت منها 6 أنوع من الحشرات كافة و أهمهم حشرة الفيورنيا و حشرة النخيل القشرية البيضاء و سجلت ثلاث أنواع من الأعداء الحيوية نوعين من الطفيليات و نوع من المفترسات.

محصول التين: - تصاب أشجار التين ب 12 نوع من الحشرات تابعة لـ 3 رتب و9 عائلات حيث سجلت منها 9 أنوع من الحشرات كافة و أهمهم حشرة التين الشمعية و حشرة اللاتنيا القشرية و سجلت ثلاث أنواع من الأعداء الحيوية نوعين من الطفيليات و نوع من المفترسات.